

Knowledge regarding antenatal care among pregnant women

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Abstract

Background: To study the knowledge and awareness regarding antenatal care in pregnant women.

Methods: Total 100 pregnant females were studied about knowledge and attitude during antenatal care check-up. The study was cross sectional in design. They were asked questions while attending the outpatient clinic in the hospital.

Results: 84.00% respondent was knew that pregnant women need to go for their checkup. 44.00 % women have knowledge that 1st prenatal check-up should be done in the starting three months of gestation. Almost half of the women know 52.00% that high blood pressure can affect the growth of their children.

Conclusion: The study concluded that overall pregnant women response in yes regarding knowledge about antenatal care.

Keywords: Pregnant, Ante natal, Knoweldge.

Introduction

Prenatal care, also known as antenatal care, is a type of preventive healthcare. Its goal is to provide regular check-ups that allow doctors or midwives to treat and prevent potential health problems throughout the course

of the pregnancy and to promote healthy lifestyles that benefit both mother and child.¹

The objectives of antenatal care are to promote, protect and maintain the health of the mother during pregnancy. Antenatal care helps to detect high risk cases, to foresee complications and to remove anxiety and dread associated with delivery. Knowledge is the understanding of any given topic.¹

Maternal health services have a potentially critical role in the improvement of reproductive health. The use of health service related to availability, quality and cost of services as well as the social structures, health beliefs and personal characteristics of the users. Over half a million women die each year from complications of pregnancy or childbirth. Most maternal deaths occur during childbirth and the presence of trained medical staff could greatly reduce this number.²

Attitudes are emotional, motivational, perceptive and cognitive beliefs that positively or negatively influence the behaviour or practice of an individual.³

Practices are defined as the observable actions of a pregnant women that could affect her to go to the hospital for antenatal check-up, after knowing the danger

signs during pregnancy, how she is making the arrangement to attend hospital and how she had adapting the family planning methods after marriage, in the previous and present pregnancy. ⁴

With this reason the present study was conducted among pregnant females to find out the knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) score antenatal care.

Material and methods

Study Design: Cross sectional

Population: The target populations were the pregnant women from 20 to 45.

Sampling: Non-Probability Convenient sampling

Data Collection

Women were questioned regarding registration of pregnancy. They were also asked about the danger sign during pregnancy. The danger signs were dizziness, fainting swelling of feet, severe head ache, persistent vomiting, bleeding per vagina, and blurring of vision, less movement of baby inside uterus, leaking per vagina and pain abdomen.

Results

Table 1: Demographic Information of Participants

Mean age	24.45±6.34 Yrs
Education level	
Illiterate	20(20.00%)
Primary	12(12.00%)
Secondary	24(24.00%)
Graduation	36(36.00%)
Post-graduation	8(8.00%)

Table 2: Pregnant women’s Knowledge Regarding Antenatal care

Question	Yes	No
Do pregnant women need to go for antenatal check-up?	92(92.00%)	8(8.00%)

Should first antenatal check-up be done in the first 3 months?	64(64.00%)	36(36.00%)
Is it necessary to give inj. TT during pregnancy?	74(74.00%)	26(26.00%)
Does pregnant woman need vitamin supplement and iron folic acid tablet during pregnancy?	66(66.00%)	34(34.00%)
Regular Blood pressure examination is necessary during pregnancy.	52(52.00%)	48(48.00%)
Regular Blood pressure examination is necessary during pregnancy.	60 (60.00%)	60(40.00%)

84.00% respondent was known that pregnant women need to go for their checkup. 44.00 % women have knowledge that 1st prenatal check-up should be done in the starting three months of gestation. Almost half of the women know 52.00% that high blood pressure can affect the growth of their children.

Discussion

It is known that most perinatal deaths can be prevented if adequate antenatal care and timely obstetric care is provided. In this study, overall knowledge regarding need of expectant ladies to go for prenatal assessment.

84.00% respondent was known that pregnant women need to go for their checkup. 44.00 % women have knowledge that 1st prenatal check-up should be done in the starting three months of gestation. Almost half of the women know 52.00% that high blood pressure can affect the growth of their children.

Another similar study was conducted in Orang Asli et al ⁵ in Jempol District shows 94.2% expectant females have awareness about “that expectant women need to go for

gynecological assessment". Similarly, 73.1% women know that pregnant females need to go for pre-birth check-up even if there is no complication. 92.3% knows that pregnant women needs vitamin supplement. Respectively 55.8% women know that high blood pressure can affect the growth of their children.

Conclusion

The study concluded that overall pregnant women response in yes regarding knowledge about antenatal care.

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